

“Given that some level of uncertainty always exists in environmental resource management, decision-makers should continuously gather and integrate appropriate ecological, social, and economic information with the goal of adaptive improvement”.

“All of the internal and external costs and benefits, including social and ecological, of alternative actions concerning the use of environmental resources should be identified and allocated. When appropriate, markets should be adjusted to reflect full costs”.

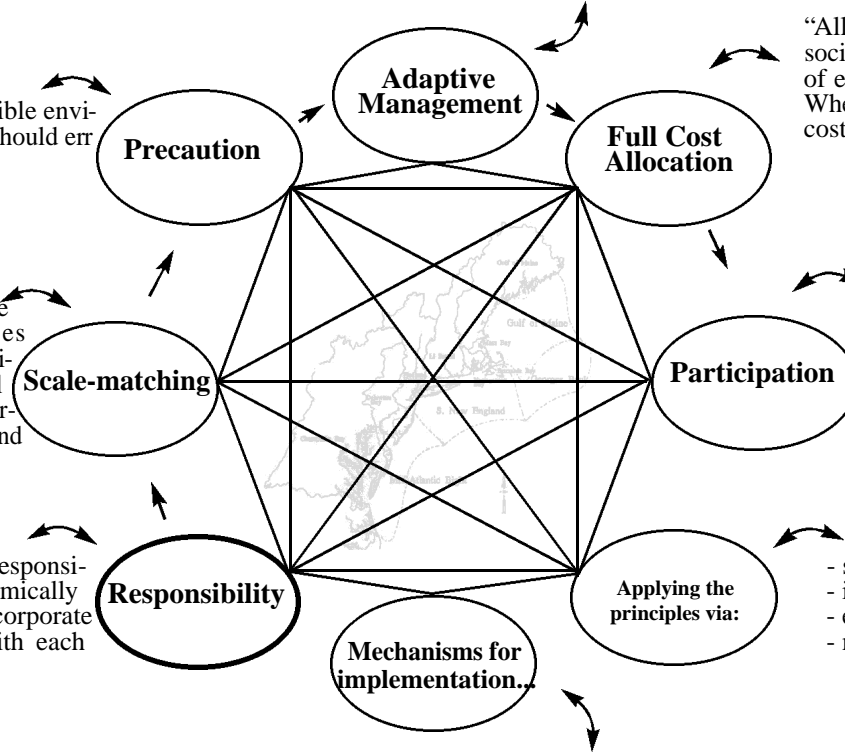
“In the face of uncertainty about potentially irreversible environmental impacts, decisions concerning their use should err on the side of caution”.

“Ecological problems are rarely confined to a single scale. Decision-making on environmental resources should (i) be assigned to institutional levels that maximize ecological input, (ii) ensure the flow of ecological information between institutional levels, (iii) take ownership and actors into account, and (iv) internalize costs and benefits”.

“All stakeholders should be engaged in the formulation and implementation of decisions concerning environmental resources. Full stakeholder awareness and participation contributes to credible, accepted rules that identify and assign the corresponding responsibilities appropriately”.

“Access to environmental resources carries attendant responsibilities to use them in an ecological sustainable, economically efficient, and socially fair manner. Individual and corporate responsibilities and incentives should be aligned with each other and with broad social and ecological goals”.

- shore-based and co-managed fisheries,
- integrated watershed management within an LME,
- environmental bonding
- marine protected areas (MPA's).



Mechanisms to implement an integrated approach to a new governance structure from Watkins (2004, p. 103) include:

- “basing its structure on ecosystems and using proactive and adaptive management methods;
- developing principles of ocean stewardship and incorporating them into the structure through public-private partnerships;
- integrating the government structure both horizontally and vertically; and
- enabling more consistent participation by regional stakeholders and management experts.”